VIRGINIAN - PILOT

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TWELVE PAGES.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 27, 1900

LAME OPPOSITION.

Philadelphia convention met that the The Virginian-Pilot is waging no was oratory with denunciation of Allow have been framed; it is merely such a gentle chiding as any favorite child affectionate and indulgent parent who felt that it was incombent on him to "Vice is a monster of such hideous impress the neighbors whose orchards had ben robbed with an intention to reform his offspring.

In the oratory, denunciation of the trusts was conspicuous by its absence. issue was by way of explanation and apology. The octopus was most dis-tinctly not belabored. There was a disposition to belittle and ridicule the issue. Instead of expressing the firm tented themselves rather with questioning the sincerity of the Demoand there was some fat wit, mightly

trust delegates over the connection of Tammany officials with the Ice Trust in New York City,

In New York City.

Doubtless the Republican convention went so far as it dared go in its antifrust plank. Possibly that aggresation flattered fiself that it was making the impression on the country at large that the Republican party could be depended on to curb trust activity. If so, it was grievously misaken. This completed the process. A poseur and an attitudinizer always, before he is country believes nothing of the sort. Apart from the fact that nothing has been done during the past four years to check the tendency toward outrageous monopolies, it can not be said that the Republicans in convention assembled acted the part of trustflatene sufficiently well to deceive any considerable number of voters. There was nothing of the ring of sincerity about their profession. In spite of themselves, they were driven by the Doubtless the Republican convention equality of oportunity which has been at once the boast of the American ance when displayed by a candidate people and the secret of their unparfor the vice-Presidency. allelled progress

Sunday was distressingly signalized train and the death of thirty-nve pasimproved safety appliances and the against disasters on the rail, they remain the most frequent and horrible in the chapter of accidents.

THE PRESIDENT AND THE CONSTITUTION.

Belleving that unrestrained imperial-istic powers in the hands of the President to be fraught with greater danger to the public weal than even the lives of many citizens, as precious as they are the Virginian-Pilot has steadfastly opposed every step of the Administration tending towards interfering with Euro-pean and Asiatic Powers and countries. So far it has been a matter of policy. Now it is an aggressive step by the President, in the teeth of the Constitut tion, which prohibits any act or deed by the President declaratory of war.

John Randolph Tucker, the greatest Constitutional lawyer of America, in his work on the Constitution, rebukes the President in no uncertain language, as though he anticipated just such a position as the present. Says Mr.

"The words 'to declare' include the power to make war, with all the includents of raising armies and navies, which the Constitution has confided in Congress. It is well, therefore, to guard ogainst the inference that, because the declaration of war is not now held necessary to constitute the status of beligerency, the President may plunge the country into war without that which is equivalent to a declaration of it by Congress."

Mr. Tucker is almost prochetly in his

Mr. Tucker is almost prophetic in his interpretation of the present Chinese incident. "It is well," says he, "to guard against the inference that, beheld necessary to constitute the status plunge the country into war."

Thus, the very ground and principle of the Constitution are being evaded. With the greatest care the framers, with a prophetic vision, prepared against the invasion of the rights of the people by the Executive. In express words it prohibits the Executive from claring war, delegating that power to the Congress alone. The President is de-That act is of itself a casus belli, and so have been murdered in this country,

But it is the principle of the thing. Congress will the President usurp! inder cover of a general sympathy with will be act for political reasons?

Murder is not the only thing that United States except by act of Conof the Republican party toward in the the Chinese case. If the Chinese, in the the Chinese case. If the Chinese themselves to the public. It was the should declare that "China, by her un-

would go the limit in the expression of Republican party in particular. It is "pirates of com- fighting for a principle, for the very and that the anti-trust plank groundwork of the American Governbe given a color of sincerity by ment, the Constitution. Take away the In both instances this opinion and chooses, in violation and in deroga-ar beyond results. The antitrust plank is as lame and impotent well not have a Constitution at all. Aldeclaration of hostility as could low it in one case, it follows in an-Remember how easy it is to become familiar with improper, with dangerous and with obscene sights. dangerous and with obscene Violations of the Constitution like:

"That to be hated needs but to be seen;
"But once familiar with its face,
"We first pity, then endure, then embrace,"

Actions of to-day will be precedents

THE TOUR OF TEDDY.

purpose of the Republican party to and retiring tail of the McKinley kite, correct trust abuses, the orators con- announces that he expects to begin a speech-making tour of the country on cratic party in its opposition to trusts; poses to keep up the lick so long as

about their profession. In spite of beyond all percedent in a candidate themselves, they were driven by the of his prominence. He is seldom arattitude of the Democrats to betray gumentative; he is always vindictive their real sentiments, and so far as and abusive. To express in the lingo the trusts are to be an issue in the of the fishwife the political principles coming campaign, the Democrats stand of Julius Caesar is not the best possi-to win the support of those who be-ble way to attract the votes of Amerilieve that the enactment and enforce- can citizens. They may pardon, and ment of stringent anti-trust legisla- even expect, that sort of thing in the tion is necessary to the legitimate blief bush-twister who rattles the commercial development of the counsisting on the roofs of the country try, and to the preservation of that school-houses for a dollar a day and glory, but they will give it small toler-

Mr. Roosevelt was good enough to afford the country a foretaste at Philaby two of the worst railroad disasters of the year—the wreck of a passenger peet from his tongue, while that virile member holds out to wag. He orna-Bengers near Atlanta owing to a wash-out, and the collision on the Chicago mented his speech seconding the nomi-nation of McKinley with the silly and Northwestern, as a result of which slander, outworn and discarded by six passengers were killed and thirty. even the most fanatic and disreputafour injured. In spite of the use of ble of party organs, that the Democrats have deliberately encouraged the exercise of constant care in guarding Filipinos to further resistance to the once so blatant and mendacious it is not difficult to foresee the finish.

A RUSSIAN ULTIMATUM.

The declaration of the Russian Am bassador to Berlin that Russia will not permit a reorganization of the government at Pekin is the first explicit statement of Russia's attitude in the voke comment and accentuate the sus picion with which that country is althis position is not sustained by Empress Dowager must go. This is the as between the Powers and, if it shall

press Dowager is a rank usurper with ever; and if it shall appear-as it cerattempting to exterminate foreigners might be regarded as likely to result Empress Dowager has been from the first the paramount probability. sia in declaring that this shall not eventuate has, in a sense, thrown the gauntlet at the feet of the other na-

Whether the Empress Dowager wa guilty of urging the Boxers to greater violence or not, the fact remains that the government, of which she is the head, failed utterly and completely to exercise the primary function of every government to maintain order, guarantee that foreign interest will be protected under her regime in future cannot be regarded as of much value. Russia appears to have taken time by the forelock in a very positive manner. If the other Powers yield, Russian Influence will hereafter dominate the Celestial Empire.

New York's attempt to win back its lost export trade by building and arti ficial island in the harbor is merely an effort to grind with water that passed the mill. The trade has left her and for natural reasons. There is absolutely no reason why it should return beyond the fact, hardly sufficient, that New York wants it to return Despite its enormous growth New York is bound to become, comparatively, a smaller and smaller factor in the country's trade, both domestic and foreign, from year to year.

Hon, John D. Long is in a position to corroborate the assertion that one's sins usually manage to overtake him made himself the tool of the cabal that persistently persecuted Ad Schley. The result was that when he was left as the only available administration candidate for the vice-Presidential nomination the dele gates of the South and West refused to swallow him and Hanna dared not force him on the ticket. And Long wanted the nomination above all things.

Senator Daniel is apparently growing in favor as a Vice-Presidential possibility and should he signify willingness to accept the nomination at Kansas City he would command strong support from every section of the country.

NOTES AND OPINIONS.

WOMEN AND TRUSTS. (Harper's Bazaar.)

(Harper's Bazaar.)

"Take the Standard Oil Company, for instance. The profits of this concern for the current year are estimated at \$52,000,000. Would not Mr. Rockefeller smile I your son set out to establish a business that would snatch the power to fix prices out of Mr. Rockefeller's hands? Precisely there is where trusts have mothers by the

THE DEMOCRACY IMMORTAL.

(Courier-Journal.)

It takes a good deal to kill a party, The Democratic party seemed tolerably well killed when it committed harikari in 1860 and permitted the Republicans to pass into power through the breach begun at Charleston and finally effected at Baltimore. It looked as though it could not survive the success of the Union army in a war which, but a little while before its close, it deliberately and formally declared to be a failure. Surely if it were not intended to be immortal the Greeley episode would have sufficed to lay it low, Yet, after all these reverses, if manaced to get upon its feet and to regain the seats of the mighty.

In 1896 the regular Democrats polled (Courier-Journal.)

the sents of the mighty.

In 1896 the regular Democrats polled six millions and a half of votes. Niggers included, and one million Gold Democrats besides, the Republicans polled only a little more than half a million more. These are significant figures. They will have to be reckoned with by the politicians.

THE WHEAT CROP.

(N. Y. Journal of Commerce.) Mr. Snow, the crop statistician, esti-mates the wheat production of Minne-tsota and the two Dakotas this year at 75,000,000 bushels. This is a pretty se-rious crop failure as to this important district. But in stating the decrease as

compared with last year and the year before, it is important to observe whether the official or the unofficial crop figures are used. Mr. Snow's forecast in the Chicago "Times-Herald" is said to give the decrease at 125,000,-000 from last year and 150,000,000 from 1838. But this assumes crop figures for those years above the figures of the Department of Agriculture. The offi-1893. But this assumes crop figures for those years above the figures of the Department of Agriculture. The official statement of the crops of these three States was 176,113,000 bushels in 1898 and 157,711,000 bushels in 1899. A crop this year of 75,000,000 would be a decrease of \$3,000,000 bushels. About half of this promises to be made ur-by Kansas and Oklahoma. Politically, a large crop and a high price in such a hot-bed of populism as Kansas can hardly be overestimated in a year of a national election. Mr. Joy Martin, of Joy, Morton & Co., Chicago, has just returned from a trip over the Atchison road with the assurance that Kansas and Oklahoma will yield 100,000,000 bushels of wheat. The crop last year, as officially stated, was 52,671,000 bushels. In several of the Western States the reduction of acreage, it should be borne in mind, is a reduction from the exceptionally large area sown last fall, and not a reduction from the normal area.

BRYAN'S CHANCES.

To Our Advertisers.

The Virginian-Pilot is compelled to require that all advertisers desiring to change their advertisements in our Sunday edition furnish us with copy not later than 12 o'clock noon Fridays. No change of advertisement will be guar-anteed in our Sunday paper if copy is sent later than this hour. This requirement is rendered necessary by the great increase in our advertising patronage, for which we thank our patrons and trust that they will appreciate the fact that an early paper will be a mutual

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